

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 A-01 SY-05 CPR-01
OC-06 CCO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /045 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4797
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)
SUBJECT: SECVISIT: MEDIA REQUESTS FOR INTERVIEWS

1. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR PRIVATE INTERVIEWS WITH THE SECRETARY WHILE HE IS IN ISRAEL. FOR EXAMPLE: A) YAACOV ACHIMEIR OF ISRAELI TELEVISION WOULD LIKE A FIELD INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY--AS MUCH AS THIRTY MINUTES--IF POSSIBLE; B) GABRIEL STRASSMAN, EDITOR OF MAARIV, WOULD LIKE TO INTERVIEW HIM; C) ALL THE AMERICAN NEWS AGENCIES HAVE INDICATED A STRONG INTEREST IN GETTING A STATEMENT.
2. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT COULD GIVE US AN INDICATION OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE SECRETARY ON HIS DESIRES FOR SPECIAL COVERAGE WHILE HERE (IN EITHER ISRAELI OR AMERICAN MEDIA).
3. THERE ARE SEVERAL PROBLEMS WE SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION: A) ANY PRIVATE INTERVIEW FOR A NEWSPAPER HERE WILL PROBABLY ANGER THE AMERICAN REPORTERS TRAVELLING WITH THE SECRETARY. SUCH A PRIVATE INTERVIEW WILL ALSO CAUSE ITS PROBLEMS WITH OTHER LOCAL MEDIA. B) WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE SECRETARY

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IS NOT TRAPPED FOR SHORT INTERVIEWS LEAVING OR ENTERING MEETINGS OR LUNCHEON AND DINNER ENGAGEMENTS. SMALL REMARKS HERE CAN BE BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION. THERE IS ALSO THE CUSTOM HERE AT LUNCHEON OR DINNER OF INTRODUCING "PET JOURNALISTS" AS ORDINARY GUESTS SO THAT THE VISITING VIP SUDDENLY FINDS HIMSELF QUOTED IN CONVERSATIONS WHICH HE THOUGHT WERE PRIVATE. C) IF THE SECRETARY DESIRES

COVERAGE IN ISRAEL, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE BEST THING
WOULD BE A TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH ACHIMEIR. THIS
WOULD GURANTEE EXPOSURE TO AT LEAST THREE-QUARTERS OF
THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY AND THE PRESS WOULD HAVE
AN EQUAL CHANCE AT PICKING UP AND COMMENTING ON
TELEVISED STATEMENTS.
DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

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